



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

REGION 5

77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD  
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

OCT 04 2010

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

E-19J

Laurie McGilvray, Division Chief  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management  
1305 East West Highway, N/ORM  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Re: Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Lake Superior National Estuarine Research Reserve - EIS No. 20100359

Dear Ms. McGilvray:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the above-mentioned project in accordance with our responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA Implementing Regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

EPA assigned a rating of "Lack of Objections" to the Draft EIS in our July 12, 2010 letter. The Preferred Alternative was retained as the alternative that can best meet the purpose and need stated in the Draft EIS. Based on our review of the Final EIS, we maintain our lack of objections to the Preferred Alternative and the proposed project.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this project. If you have any questions regarding the contents of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me or Kathleen Kowal of my staff at (312) 353-5206 or via email at [kowal.kathleen@epa.gov](mailto:kowal.kathleen@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth A. Westlake", is written over a horizontal line.

Kenneth A. Westlake  
Chief, NEPA Implementation Section  
Office of Enforcement & Compliance Assurance